

Program Information

Cultural competence is defined as a set of behaviors, attitudes and skills that facilitate effective work in cross-cultural situations. Creighton University's online Graduate Certificate in Cultural Competence in Health Care (CCH) prepares professionals to work effectively in diverse settings with patients or communities struggling with health.

Health care professionals who can benefit from this program include dentists, nurses, nurse practitioners, occupational therapists, pharmacists, physician assistants, physicians and physical therapists. Non-clinical professionals such as chaplains, hospital administrators, patient advocates, patient navigators, social workers and others will also find it highly valuable to their work.

Through this graduate certificate program, you will learn the essential knowledge, attitudes and skills associated with cultural competence. You will build an advanced foundation for cultural responsiveness in health care services preparing you to address the challenges of responding to health disparity.



For more information or to apply online, please visit:

[GRADSCHOOL.CREIGHTON.EDU](https://gradschool.creighton.edu)

Dr. Alex Rödlach, SVD
Program Director
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Program of Study

Graduate Certificate (15 Credit Hours)

Upon completion of the program, you will be familiar with a range of health beliefs and behaviors that you may encounter in clinical and community settings. You will have an appreciation of cultural differences and the needs of diverse populations. You will gain the ability to communicate across such differences.

Curriculum

Students who take one course each term (6 credits per semester) can complete the program within one academic year. With the approval of the assigned advisor, students can take more than one course per term and complete the program earlier. They can also take fewer courses and take more time. All courses are online.

Preparation Phase (1 credit)

- Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) (0 credits)
- Medical Anthropology Introductory Self-Assessment (0 credits)
- GRD 600 – Orientation to Online Learning (0 credits)
- GRD 601 – Scholarly Reading and Writing (1 credit)

Related Certificate Program

Students in the Cultural Competence Health Care certificate program can also receive a Graduate Certificate in Medical Anthropology if they complete 15 credit hours of medical anthropology courses. Depending on their choice of elective courses, this means that they need to take 1 to 3 additional medical anthropology (MMA) courses.

Course List

Foundational Knowledge (8 Credits)

After successfully completing these preparatory courses and measures, students can take the following required courses and electives in any sequence:

- MMA 593 Cultural Competency in Health Care (3 credits)
- MMA 600 Seminar in Medical Anthropology (2 credits)
- MMA 630 Health Care and Health Services–Anthropological Perspectives (3 credits)

Electives (6 credits)

Electives I: Attitudes (3 credits)

- MMA 590 Social Epidemiology (3 credits)
- MMA 591 Food, Culture, and Nutritional Health (3 credits)
- MMA 592 Social Science Approaches to Understanding Disease: The Example of Cancer (3 credits)
- MHE 604 Social and Cultural Contexts of Health Care (3 credits)
- MMA 640 Rural Health Issues and Initiatives (3 credits)
- MMA 650 Indigenous Health Issues (3 credits)

Electives II: Praxis Skills (3 credits)

- PHA 403 Cultural Competency for Health Care Professionals (3 credits)
- MSL 601 Strategic Orienteering and Execution Tactics (3 credits)
- MSL 602 Communicating and Leading Across Cultures (3 credits)
- MPH 602 Community Health Assessment (3 credits)
- MSL 603 Leading Innovation and Adaptive Change (3 credits)
- MSL 604 Effective Approaches to Human Capital (3 credits)
- MPH 608 Health Communication and Informatics (3 credits)
- NCR 622-W Conflict Engagement and Leadership (3 credits)
- NCR 624-W Dynamics of Conflict Resolution (3 credits)
- NCR 633-W Applied Interdisciplinary Research: A Narrative Approach (2+1 credits)

Concluding Phase

- IDI – Intercultural Development Inventory (0 credits)

Admission Requirements

Current graduate students at Creighton University interested in pursuing this certificate are required to submit a 3-5 page “statement of purpose” and CV directly to the program director of the graduate program in medical anthropology requesting admission to the certificate program.

The program director will solicit a letter of recommendation from the student’s current advisor or program director. If the program director is satisfied with the application, the letter of recommendation, and if the student has a GPA of at least 3.5 in the program currently enrolled, the applicant is admitted to this certificate program.

Current professional students at Creighton University follow the same protocol as above. Individuals who are not yet enrolled in any of Creighton’s graduate or professional programs need to apply for admission to the Graduate Certificate in Cultural Competence in Health Care through the following process.

- **Submit a current resume.**
- **Submit a statement of purpose.** Write a 3–5 page essay outlining why you would like to enroll in the certificate program, how your previous experience prepares you for the certificate program, and how you would like to use the knowledge and skills gained during the program in your personal and professional life. Also, indicate how you intend to adjust your work and family life in order to take graduate courses.
- **Submit official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.** Applicants must have a bachelor’s degree or its equivalent from an accredited college or university by the start of the first semester in the program.
- **Three (3) recommendations by persons familiar with your academic background, achievements and personal qualities.**
- **Have a minimum TOEFL score of 577 (paper-based) or 90 (internet-based),** if English is not your first language.

Program Faculty

Barbara Dilly, PhD

Expertise: Qualitative methods, rural health

Laura Heinemann, MSW, PhD

Expertise: Qualitative methods, care and care-giving, domestic health services, anthropology of biotechnologies

LaShaune Johnson, PhD

Expertise: Community-based research, social determinants of chronic illness and cancer risk

Laeth Nasir, MBBS, MD

Expertise: Family medicine, refugee health, Arab patients in health care

Alexander Rödlach, SVD, MagTheol, PhD

Program Director
Expertise: Qualitative methods, HIV/AIDS, religion and health, global health

Renzo Rosales, SJ, MBA, PhD

Expertise: Economic and development anthropology, intercultural competence, Latin American health issues

Pamela Runestad, PhD

Expertise: HIV/AIDS, medical narratives, Japan, bicultural aspects of health and illness

Helen Stanton Chapple, MSN, PhD

Expertise: Medical anthropology in nursing, ethics, death and dying, hospice

John Stone, MD, PhD

Expertise: Bioethics, health care disparities, community-academic partnerships

Dianne Travers-Gustafson, RN, MS, PhD

Expertise: Medical anthropology in nursing, public health, rural health



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